



ADS CENTER

Resource Center to Address
Discrimination and Stigma

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN WHERE WE ARE AND WHERE WE NEED TO BE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES
Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration
Center for Mental Health Services

11420 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852
1-800-540-0320 stopstigma@samhsa.hhs.gov

Summary

Busting Stigmas With Miss Greater Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids, MI

Brief Description

Founded in 1910, Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services offers inpatient hospitalization, partial hospitalization, and outpatient counseling through their clinic network, residential services, home health care, and consultation liaison. They also participate in developing awareness programs to better educate the community.

Situation

Prior to 2004, Pine Rest observed a growing sense of bias and an increase in discriminatory practices aimed at people diagnosed with mental health disorders within local communities in the State of Michigan. As a consequence, the organization realized a need to better educate the public about the realities of mental illnesses and the people who have them.

Solution

Pine Rest has teamed up with the Miss Greater Grand Rapids Scholarship Pageant Program and its winner for 2004-2005, Christina Hudson, to bring a free community lecture series designed to "bust stigmas." Ms. Hudson travels across the State speaking in community venues about her personal struggle with mental illness. The series is entitled "Walking through the Darkness – Living with Depression."

Results

The program has resulted in a better educated citizenry in the Greater Grand Rapids area of Michigan. Communities and individuals have become more supportive of people with mental illnesses and more clearly recognize the barriers mental illnesses pose to some of their neighbors.

Contact

Kelly Rapp, Support Supervisor
Pine Rest Marketing Office
300 68th Street SE
PO Box 165

Grand Rapids, MI 49501
Phone: 616-455-6500
Email: Kelley.rapp@pinerest.org
Internet: <http://www.pinerest.org>

The SAMHSA ADS Center is a program of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Mental Health Services.

About the SAMHSA ADS Center

SAMHSA's Resource Center to Address Discrimination and Stigma (ADS Center) helps people design, implement and operate programs that reduce discrimination and stigma associated with mental illnesses. With the most up-to-date research and information, the ADS Center helps individuals, organizations and governments counter such discrimination and stigma in the community, in the workplace, and in the media.

Subscribe to receive our electronic quarterly news and event update, *Mental Health News You Can Use...*, by sending an e-mail to stopstigma@samhsa.hhs.gov, or by calling an ADS Center representative at 800-540-0320. To comment on the materials included in this document, please send e-mail to stopstigma@samhsa.hhs.gov, or write a letter to Resource Center to Address Discrimination and Stigma Associated with Mental Illness; Informational Updates; 11420 Rockville Pike; Rockville, MD 20852. To unsubscribe from our electronic distribution list using the subscribed e-mail account, click [here](#). To unsubscribe your address from a different e-mail account, send a message to Majordomo@listserve.shs.net with the following command in the message body: unsubscribe stopstigma [Your E-mail Address].

SAMHSA Resource Center to Address Discrimination and Stigma
www.stopstigma.samhsa.gov